

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4317

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-79

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: MEETING OF SATCOM CONTINGENCY PLANNING GROUP (SCCPG),
11-12 SEP 73

A. JW(73)12 (NOTAL) B. AC/270-D/109

SUMMARY: SCCPG COMPLETED PREPARATION OF DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) ON SHARED USE, DURING 1974, OF US DEFENSE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (USDCSCS) PHASE II ATLANTIC SATELLITE AND UK AND NATO EARTH TERMINALS. FIRST ROUGH DRAFT OF AN MOU ON SHARED USE BY NATO OF UK SKYNET INDIAN OCEAN SATELLITE WAS INITIATED. GROUP'S REPORT TO NJCEC RECOMMENDS THAT SCCPG BE GIVEN TASK OF DRAFTING A GENERAL MOU WHICH WOULD PERMIT CONTINGENCY OPERATION OF NATO/NATIONAL DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES IN POST 1975 PERIOD. END SUMMARY.
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1. MOU FOR 1974. SEVERAL NON-SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES WERE MADE TO PROPOSED BASIS MOU (REF A) FOR SHARED USE OF US DCS ATLANTIC SATELLITE AND NATO EARTH TERMINALS. AT SAME TIME, A SEPARATE WORKING GROUP CONSISTING OF REPS FROM SHAPE, NICSMA, US

AND UK RECOMMENDED REFINEMENTS AND CLARIFICATIONS TO ANNEXES TO MOU. IF NO ADVERSE COMMENTS ARE RECEIVED TO REVISED DOCUMENT BY 10 OCT, VAN DER WILLIGEN (CHAIRMAN, SCCPG) WILL REQUEST THAT NJCEC APPROVE MOU AT ITS NOVEMBER PLENARY. NJCEC APPROVAL WILL PERMIT OFFICIAL SIGNING OF MOU BY REPS OF NATO, USG AND HMG DURING NJCEC MEETING.

2. ALTERNATE CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR 1974 AND UNTIL SUCH TIME AS NATO SATCOM III BECOMES OPERATIONAL. GEN NORMAN (US REP) POINTED OUT THAT MOU PROPOSED FOR 1974 USE COULD BE SUBJECT TO REVISION IN 1975 UNDER PROVISIONS OF SECTION H, "TERMINATION" (ANNEX 1 TO REF A). PERTINENT SENTENCE OF MOU READS "THIS MOU WILL BE TERMINATED ON 1 JAN 1975 UNLESS IT IS EXTENDED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT, EXCEPT THE USG MAY DECIDE THAT IT IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE CAPACITY IN A USDCS SATELLITE BECAUSE OF SATELLITE FAILURE OR USG NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS." IN ITS REPORT TO NJCEC GROUP WILL POINT OUT THAT US NJCEC REP STATED DURING NOV 72 MEETING ON SUBJECT OF CURRENT MOU, THAT IT WAS LIKELY THAT SIMILAR QUID PRO QUO ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE PROPOSED IN 1974 AND USED UNTIL NATO SATCOM PHASE III IS OPERATIONAL. COMMENT: IF FORTHCOMING LAUNCH OF DCS ATLANTIC SATELLITE IS COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL, IT IS OUR VIEW THAT PROPOSED 1974 MOU SHOULD BE EXTENDED INTO 1975 UNTIL NATO SATCOM PHASE III SPACE SEGMENT BECOMES OPERATIONAL. THIS EXTENSION OF MOU WOULD BE IN SPIRIT OF PROVIDING CONTINGENCY SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS FOR MOST URGENT NATO REQUIREMENTS. FURTHERMORE, EXTENSION OF MOU WILL PERMIT US CONTINUING USE OF FACILITIES OF NATO GROUND TERMINALS TO MEET OUR US REQUIREMENTS IN EUROPEAN AREA. END COMMENT.

3. UK REP ANNOUNCED THAT FURTHER SLIPPAGES APPEAR TO BE OCCURRING IN LAUNCH DATE OF SKYNET II SATELLITE. LAUNCH MAY NOW BE DELAYED UNTIL MAR 1974 AND ACCORDINGLY, SATELLITE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONAL USE UNTIL SUMMER OF 74. GROUP'S FIRST DRAFT OF PROPOSED NATO/UK MOU IS LIMITED TO SUPPORTING THOSE NATO CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS WHICH CAN BE FULFILLED BY UK SATELLITE PLACED IN ORBIT OVER INDIAN OCEAN. COMMENT: US CONFIDENTIAL

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REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN DRAFT MOU SINCE US USE OF UK SKYNET SATELLITE IS SUBJECT OF A BILATERAL MOU BETWEEN USG AND HMG. END COMMENT. IN ITS DRAFT MOU, UK AGREES THAT NATO CAN MAKE USE OF UK INDIAN OCEAN SATELLITE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS NATO SATCOM III BECOMES OPERATIONAL. TECHNICAL ANNEXES WILL BE PREPARED DURING COMING MONTHS AND DRAFT MOU WILL BE CONSIDERED BY SCCPG AT ITS NEXT MEETING, PROPOSED FOR JAN 1974. IF DRAFT MOU IS AGREED BY SCCPG IN JAN, NJCEC WILL BE REQUESTED TO GIVE ITS BLESSING AT ITS MAR 1974 PLENARY.

4. CONTINGENCY PLANNING POST-1975. GROUP RECOGNIZED THAT IF A GENERAL MOU COULD BE AGREED COVERING CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS OF ALL AVAILABLE NATO/ NATIONAL DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, INCREASED FLEXIBILITY WOULD BE REALIZED AT LESS COST TO ALL.

IF A NATIONAL OR NATO DEFENSE SATELLITE CEASED OPERATION AND IF ITS CRITICAL REQUIREMENTS COULD BE MET BY ONE OF OTHER EXISTING SATELLITES, NATO OR NATO NATIONS WOULD FIND IT UNNECESSARY TO RETAIN BACKUP SATELLITES IN SPACE. SCCPG IS PREPARED TO DRAFT AN OVERALL CONTINGENCY MOU THAT WOULD COVER THIS POSSIBILITY. IN ITS REPORT TO NJCEC, GROUP SUGGESTS THAT IT BE TASKED WITH PREPARING A DRAFT OVERALL MOU IN WHICH NATO/NATIONAL DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES MUTUALLY SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN EVENT CONTINGENCY ARISES. COMMENT: WE FAVOR THIS SUGGESTION AND RECOMMEND THAT NJCEC TASK SCCPG TO PREPARE SUCH AN MOU USING PARA 2G OF ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE (REF B) AS BASIS FOR TASKING. END COMMENT.

5. GENERAL.

A. CANADA WAS NOT PREPARED TO PRESENT THEIR PROPOSAL ON POSSIBLE USE OF CANADIAN COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE (ANIK) AT THIS MEETING BUT PROPOSED TO MAKE SUCH PRESENTATION AT THE NEXT SCCPG PLENARY. CANADIAN REP WAS PRESENT ONLY FOR THIS ANNOUNCEMENT AND DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN OTHER DELIBERATIONS.

B. INITIALLY, NJCEC APPROVED TOR OF SCCPG FOR ONE YEAR. EXTENSION OR CHANGES TO TOR WILL BE A SUBJECT OF CONSIDERATION ON AGENDA OF NEXT SCCPG MEETING. COMMENT: IT IS OUR VIEW THAT CURRENT TOR ARE ADEQUATE AND SHOULD BE EXTENDED. END COMMENT.

C. CAN DER WILLIGEN WAS DESIGNATED AS CHAIRMAN OF
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SCCPG FOR ONE YEAR. COMMENT: VAN DER WILLIGEN HAS DONE A CREDIBLE JOB AS CHAIRMAN, IS OBJECTIVE IN HIS VIEWS, AND HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED US SUGGESTIONS. WE RECOMMEND THAT HE BE EXTENDED AS CHAIRMAN OF GROUP. END COMMENT.

D. NEXT PLENARY MEETING OF SCCPG IS SCHEDULED FOR
JAN 22-23, 1974.
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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